

REMARKS

I. Summary of the Office Action and Status of the Application

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed on May 25, 2004. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 10 and 13-21 are currently pending in this application. Claims 10, 13-17, 19, and 20-21 are currently amended. Claim 18 is original. Claims 10 and 13-21 remain under consideration, and of these, claims 10, 20, and 21 are independent. Claims 1-9 and 12-13 have been previously canceled. There are no new claims. No new matter is added.

The Office Action rejects claims 10, 15, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,763,051 (Speigel et al.). The Office Action rejects claims 10, 16, 20, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,536,383 (Van Danh et al.). Claims 13, 14, and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

II. Claim Objections and Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2

The Office Action objects to claims 14, 16, 17, and 19 based on typographical errors. Applicants have amended claims 14, 16, 17, 19, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Applicants have also corrected typographical errors found in claims 10 and 20-21.

Claims 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner points out the impropriety of using open-ended transitional phrasing in a Markush group claim. Applicants have amended claims 13-17 to comport with 2173.05(h) of the MPEP by replacing the term "including" with "consisting of," in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action rejects claim 10 as being anticipated by Speigel et al. Speigel pertains to a suspension for dip-coating metallic segments of a display device to provide a layer of phosphor thereon. See abstract. The suspension is comprised of a primary binder, a permanent

binder, phosphor particles, a wetting agent, a high-boiling solvent, and a bubble eliminating agent. See abstract. The suspension is applied to a flexible sheet of vinyl and allowed to drain. Metallic segments are brought into contact with the vinyl, pressed thereinto, and removed for drying. Spiegel does not disclose “a screen” of any kind.

The binders disclosed in Spiegel are limited to “PVA and sodium or potassium silicate.” See Spiegel at column 1, lines 39-40. PVA, sodium silicate, and potassium silicate are NOT understood to be conductive binders. The chemical structure of these compounds/polymers do not permit the free exchange of electrons that is required for a molecule to be characterized as conductive.

As such, Spiegel does not teach or suggest a “binder material comprising a conductive material,” which is necessary to anticipate claim 10. Moreover, Spiegel is silent with respect to a “screen,” as required by claim 10. Similarly, Spiegel does not disclose “applying a phosphor material and a binder on said screen,” as recited by claim 10. Therefore, claim 10 distinguishes over the cited art and should be allowed.

IV. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Office Action rejects independent claims 10 and 20-21 as being anticipated by Van Danh et al. Van Danh pertains to a suspension for the deposition of luminescent material by electrophoresis. The non-aqueous suspension comprises an organic, polar solvent, a metal salt, a vegetable protein, and a powder of luminescent material. Electrophoresis is used to deposit the luminescent material (18) contained in the suspension onto conductive tracks (15, 16, 17). See abstract and Fig. 2.

Electrophoresis is a method for separating different molecules in a mixture; the separation being driven by an electric current. The electrophoretic mixture requires an ionic buffer to pass the current through the mixture. As is known in the art of electrophoresis, the metal salt disclosed by Van Dahn is the ionic buffer. This is evidenced by “the metal salt....permits an increase in the conductivity of the suspension and a decrease of the voltage necessary for deposition.” See Van Danh at column 3, lines 23-25. The metal salt does not get

deposited. The metal salt facilitates the separation of the luminescent material “for producing deposits on indium and tin oxide (ITO).” See Van Danh at column 3, lines 26-27.

Accordingly, Van Dahn does not teach or suggest “applying...a binder material on said screen...said binder material comprising a conductive material” as required by claim 10. Likewise, Van Danh does not disclose “simultaneously applying a layer of phosphor and [semi]conductive binder material,” recited by claims 20-21. As illustrated by Fig. 2, luminescent material (18, 19, 20), and only luminescent material, is deposited onto conductive tracks (15, 16, 17). Therefore, claims 10 and 20-21 distinguish over the cited art and should be allowed.

Since claims 13-19 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 10, claims 13-19 should be allowed for at least the same reasons as provided for claim 10.

V. Conclusion

For at least the reasons stated in these Remarks, Applicants believe all pending claims to be in allowable condition. The current Amendment serves to correct typographical and indefiniteness errors. Applicants reserve the right to argue other distinctions if it ever becomes necessary. A favorable examination result is earnestly solicited. Questions or issues arising in this matter should be directed to Applicants’ representatives, listed below.

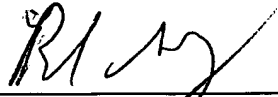
The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-0219 the fee of \$110.00 to cover the cost of the requested one month extension of time. No other fees are believed to be due in connection with this paper. However, please charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, that may be due in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

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Respectfully submitted,

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